

## **CMFHP Responses**

### KHPA Medical Home Initiative Marketing and Communication Workgroup

What does a Medical Home look like?

The Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) is an approach to providing comprehensive primary care for children, youth and adults. The PCMH is a health care setting that facilitates partnerships between individual patients, and their personal physicians, and when appropriate, the patient's family.<sup>1</sup>

Why is it compelling?

The medical home offers an innovative model that will combine the old concept of the primary care physician with new ideas on how care can and should revolve around a patient's unique needs. Along with the application of technology a medical home offers the promise of better patient outcomes and improved health of populations.

Why should providers participate? What are the benefits to patients/providers?

The medical home model is about shared responsibility between physicians and their patients. It emphasizes the need for a whole person orientation whereby the physician and his or her team of individuals takes responsibility for arranging appropriate care with other qualified professionals. By becoming better engaged in overall coordination across the continuum of care, quality and access can be greatly improved in a patient centered medical home. In order to accomplish the goals of a patient centered medical home, financial incentives through an enhanced reimbursement system need to be created to foster development of the medical home concept.<sup>2</sup> Patients can expect better quality outcomes, increased access due to better care coordination and overall lower costs because of increased use of health technology.

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<sup>1</sup> From The Patient Centered Primary Care Collaborative's Joint Principles, <http://www.pcpcc.net/content/joint-principles-patient-centered-medical-home>

<sup>2</sup> Beesla, Rohan & Neva Kaye, "Supporting the Patient Centered Medical Home in Medicaid and SCHIP: Savings and Reimbursement," State Policy Briefing, National Academy for State Health Policy, April 2008, p. 2